(b) whether it is also a fact that this project has been sanctioned on the 'build, lease and transfer' basis;

(c) if so, what are the total expenses likely to be incurred for completion of this project;

(d) what is the total investment by the concerned Company and also the completion period of the project; and

(e) what is the lease period and lease amount which would be given by the Railways to the concerned company?

THE MININSTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Extension of fifth rail line from Mumbai to Kalyan

1433. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the spreading of 5th line from Mumbai to Kalyan has been under Government's consideration;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the 5th line had been spread from Mumbai to Ghatkopar, long ago;

(c) if so, by when the spreading of 5th line from Mumbai to Kalyan will be completed; and

(d) whether there is any target to complete the same?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

STD|ISD|PCO|FAX booths to handicapped persons at Railway stations

1434. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the declared Government policy, the allotment of space for installation of STD|ISD|PCO|FAX booths at Railway stations is reserved exclusively for handicapped persons;

(b) if so, what are the guidelines in this regard; and

(c) what are the names of stations where this facility have been provided in each Zonal Railways?

THE MININSTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) As per the extant instructions, space for installation of STD|ISD|PCO booths at the railway stations is given to physically handicapped persons having handicap of 40 per cent above. Amongst handicapped persons preference is given to educated persons and belonging to SC/ST and weaker sections.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Commercial use of surplus railway land

1435. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal to raise additiona funds through commercial use of its surplus land; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) The Railways do not have surplus land. Proposal to raise additional funds for developments, by commercial use of the airspace over railway property, is still under consideration of the Government.

Unmanned railway crossings

1436. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of dangerous unmanned railway crossings in the country; and

(b) the time by which these would be manned?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Sir, an unmanned level crossings is hazardous, if not crossed carefully. There are about 23000 such level crossings on Indian Railways. The initial cost of manning of unmanned level crossing is to be borne by the State Governments. The manning of unmanned level crossings can be taken up if the State Governments can provide necessary funds for meeting the initial costs.

Counting the training period of Railway Traffic Apprentices

1437. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Traffic Apprentices of Indian Railways who were absorbed to continue against Regular Posts on completion of their apprenticeship, have not been given the benefit of counting the period of apprenticeship, for the purpose of date of appointment from the date of joining the training, for earning increments, etc.; and

(b) if so, whether Government would propose to give the same immediately to all so far absorbed in the Railways, without discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) The period of apprenticeship counts for the purpose of increments, minimum service required for further promotion, pensionary benefits, eligibility for privilege passes etc. It is not taken into account for the purpose of seniority as the seniority counts from the date of coming over to a working post after successful completion of the apprenticeship.

भागलपुर के रास्ते से राजधानी एक्सप्रेस का चलाया जाना

1438. **श्री जनार्दन यादव:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार भागलपुर के रास्ते से होकर नई दिल्ली-हावड़ा राजधानी एक्सप्रेस चलाये जाने का कोई प्रस्ताव है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कब तक; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी०के० जाफर शरीफ) : (क) जी, नही ।

(ख) प्रश्न नही उठता ।

(ग) यातायात औचित्य की कमी के अलावा परिचालनिक कठिनाइयां और संसाधनों की तंगी ।

Computerised enquiry system about movement of trains

1439. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Railways is considering to introduce Computerised Global Enquiry System to provide information about time tables and movement of trains; and

(b) if so, by when the same would be made available to the general public?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) A computerised global enquiry system already exists at Bombay Central, Ahmedabad, Baroda, International Tourist Bureau (New Delhi) and the centralised telephone enquiry centre in New Delhi. There is a proposal to introduce this system in Secunderabad and work is in progress for the same.